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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 21 (d), 25, 33, 41, 69 and 90

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

Question of Palestine

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Questions relating to information

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 29 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter dated 2 January 2002 (A/56/764-S/2002/14), I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the resolutions of the Third Session of Ministers of Culture of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held in Doha during the period from 29 to 31 December 2001 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 21 (d), 25, 33, 41, 69 and 90, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nassir Abdulaziz **Al-Nasser**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 29 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

Resolutions of the Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers

Doha, Qatar, 29-31 December 2001/14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H.

Resolution on
Adoption of the Draft Agenda

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

- Having considered the Draft Agenda of its 3rd Session contained in document (ICCM3/2001/1.1 Amended),

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- Adopts the Agenda of its current 3rd Session as contained in document (ICCM3/2001/1.1 Amended).

Resolution on
Adoption of the Draft Programme

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

- Having considered the Draft Programme of its 3rd Session contained in document (ICCM3/2001/1.2 Amended),

- Considering the deliberations which have taken place,

Decides the following :

- Adopts the Programme of its current 3rd Session as contained in document (ICCM3/2001/1.2 Amended).

Resolution on
Composition of the steering
Bureau of the Conference

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Shcikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

Decides the following :

Elects the Bureau of the 3rd Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers as follows:

- *Chairman:* State of Qatar
- *Vice-Chairmen:*
  - * Islamic Republic of Pakistan
  - * Palestine
  - * Republic of Niger
- *Rapporteur:* Kingdom of Morocco

A/56/799
S/2002/128

Resolution on
Implementation of the Resolutions of Second Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers on the Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

- Based on the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the principles and objectives enshrined therein,
- Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference,
- In accordance with the Charter of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the principles and objectives set out therein,
- Guided by the principles and objectives of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Considering the Resolutions of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference,
- Recalling the resolutions of the Second Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers,
- Having considered the report of the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of the resolutions of the Second Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers on the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Having examined the reports of the Consultative Council for Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World on its first and second meetings,

Decides the following :

1- **Affirms** its mandate to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in its capacity as the specialized body within the Organization of the Islamic Conference and considering the fact that it is the living cultural conscience of

the Muslim World, to pursue the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and to follow up to its implementation through the Consultative Council set up for that purpose, as well as to collaborate with relevant quarters in the Member States and the OIC General Secretariat.

2- **Stresses** the need to step up, coordinate, and pool efforts and marshal potentialities and resources in order to give strong impetus to the implementation mechanisms of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and to adapt them to the regional and international developments as it is a flexible action plan and a dynamic framework that meet the requirements of the comprehensive and multi-purpose development of the Muslim world, taking into consideration difference in situation and diversity in options and in national cultural policies of each Member State.

3- **Exhorts** the Member States to incorporate the cultural principles that help shape the individual, build civilization and attain development and progress, principles enshrined in the spirit of the Islamic civilization, into the core of national cultural policies; and stresses the need to promote the factors of compelementarity, inter-relationship and solidarity within Islamic brotherhood that holds together the peoples of the Muslim Ummah and to adopt it as a foundation of the joint Islamic cultural action.

4- **Stresses** the critical importance of deepening the concept of the cultural and civilizational unity of the Muslim Ummah, of strengthening that concept and harnessing it in order to shape the cultural identity of the Muslim World for it is the hard core that stands fast in the face of the globalization challenges which are sweeping away the specificities of peoples and menacing their own cultural identities.

5- **Calls** upon the Member States which do not have national cultural councils, to create them, in order for the latter to coordinate activities of the cultural action therein, for the purpose of implementing the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, whether as part of the mission devolved on the culture ministries of the Muslim States or their respective national cultural councils, so that those councils may become bodies that support and complement already existing institutions.

6- **Adopts** the reports of the Consultative Council for the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, on its first and second meetings.

7- **Calls upon** Member States wishing to implement cultural projects, to submit those projects to the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization which shall refer them to the Consultative Council for Implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World.

8- **Commends** the role of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in its capacity as the body specialized, at the Muslim world level, in developing the guidelines for the cultural development of the Muslim world, and which has been entrusted with the task of coordinating the joint Islamic cultural action and following up its steps; and stresses the importance of the Islamic Organization mobilizing the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, in order to support executive programmes of the Strategy in a continuous manner.

9- **Invites** all the Member States to allocate additional financial resources to support the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to allow it to continue following up the implementation of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World and to redouble its efforts in order to activate it, in a manner that would not affect the budget earmarked for the implementation of the programmes scheduled under ISESCO's Action Plan.

10- **Invites** the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to submit a report on the subject to the 4th Session of the Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.

Resolution on
Implementation of the Islamic Cultural Action in the West

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

- Based on the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the principles and objectives enshrined therein,
- Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference,
- In accordance with the Charter of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the principles and objectives set out therein,
- Guided by the principles and objectives of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Considering the Resolutions of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference,
- Having examined the report of the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action in the West,

Decides the following :

1- **Stresses** the importance of activating the role of the Higher Council for Education and Culture in the West operating within the framework of the Strategy for Islamic Cultural Action in the West, and calls upon the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to provide financial and moral support to the Higher Council for Education and Culture in the West through the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

2- **Calls upon** the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to elaborate a comprehensive perception reflecting its integrated vision of Islamic cultural action in the West in the light of the international developments, as part of its current Action Plan for the years 2001-2003 and within the limits of its budget.

Resolution on
Activities of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization under the International Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

- Based on the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the principles and objectives enshrined therein,
- Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference,
- In accordance with the Charter of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the principles and objectives set out therein,
- Guided by the principles and objectives of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Considering the Resolutions of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference,
- Having considered the report of the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the activities implemented by the Islamic Organization under the International Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Decides the following :

1- **Reaffirms** the position of the Muslim world on dialogue among civilizations based on Islam's principles and teachings of tolerance, commanding tolerance among civilizations, peaceful co-existence and mutual respect for cultural and civilizational specificities of nations.

2- **Invites** the other parties to show receptiveness to the positive stance of the Muslim world with regard to dialogue among civilizations and to testify to sincere desire for achieving understanding among the peoples of the world and preventing injustice, aggression, usurpation of legitimate rights and negation of the cultural specificities of peoples.

3- **Calls upon** the international community to pursue dialogue among civilizations and to regard it as a continuous subject and a permanent issue constantly present on the international scene, and not confined or limited to one year only.

4- **Appeals** to international parties, including organizations, institutions, bodies and personalities concerned with issues bearing on human destiny, to give utmost consideration to dialogue among civilizations and to gear it towards the fostering of peace and security, justice and stability in the world.

5- **Commends** the efforts of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in implementing several activities under the United Nations' Year of Dialogue among civilizations, and invites ISESCO to pursue these efforts through international fora, in order to convey Islam's civilizational message, and to make clear the Muslim world's position on dialogue among civilizations.

Resolution on
the Recommendations of the Specialized Commissions of the OIC on the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

- Based on the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the principles and objectives enshrined therein,
- Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference,
- In accordance with the Charter of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the principles and objectives set out therein,
- Guided by the principles and objectives of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Considering the Resolutions of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference,
- Having examined the report of the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the recommendations of the specialized commissions of the OIC on the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,

Decides the following :

1- **Reaffirms** the resolutions of the relevant parties of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, and invites the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to follow up its implementation.

2- **Commends** the efforts of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in implementing the resolutions of the Second Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers.

3- **Praises** the initiatives of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for developing cooperation and partnership with Arab, Islamic and international organizations to implement the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World, and invites it to further coordination in the common fields with those organizations to avoid duplication of efforts.

Resolution on
Western Media Denigration of Islam and Islamic Civilization under the Present International Juncture

The Third Islamic Conference of Culture Ministers, held under the high patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, may Allah protect him, Emir of the State of Qatar, President of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference, at Doha, on 14-16 Shawal, 1422 A.H. / 29-31 December, 2001,

- Based on the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the principles and objectives enshrined therein,
- Inspired by the Makkah Al-Mukarramah Declaration issued by the Third Islamic Summit Conference,
- In accordance with the Charter of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the principles and objectives set out therein,
- Guided by the principles and objectives of the Cultural Strategy for the Islamic World,
- Considering the Resolutions of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference.
- Having examined the report of the Director General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on media denigration of Islam and Islamic civilization in the West,

Decides the following :

1- **Condemns** the tendentious smear campaign staged by Western media against Islam to distort its bright image, obliterate its crystal-clear reality, denigrate Muslims, cause prejudice to them, harm their interests and besmirch their reputation among the international community.

2- **Mandates** the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to develop a detailed programme to refute the denigration campaings mounted by the Western media against Islam and Islamic civilization. This programme shall be submitted to the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to benefit therefrom in repelling these campaigns.

3- **Invites** all Member States to take initiatives at the level of their own information bodies, whether governmental or non-governmental, within their own possibilities and their national cultural and media policies, in order to contribute to rehabilitating the image of Islam in the West. The Islamic diplomatic missions at the Western capitals will be made, through the relevant departments of their countries, to participate in those efforts.

4- **Stresses** the fact that the response to media denigration of Islam and Islamic civilization is a responsibility commonly shared by all Member States, as well as by non-governmental media, by men of thought, science and culture and media specialists in general.